



Swim Team, p.11



Pride Festival, p.12

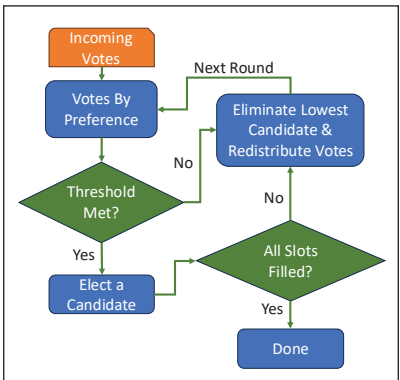
Council Worksession Ponders Ranked Choice Voting Option

by Abel Bisrat

The June 18 Greenbelt City Council worksession covered the issue of ranked choice voting (RCV). Greenbelt Election Advisory Board Member Nicole Shyong presented the principles underlying the proposal, what its potential application could look like and its possible benefits and pitfalls. Shyong also addressed any outstanding questions and the topic of a potential referendum on the question of whether to implement it.

What Is Ranked Choice?

RCV is a system where voters vote in order of their preferences for a given set of candidates. In Greenbelt's current system (called plurality voting), voters select up to seven choices out of a list of candidates without any distinction among them in terms of whom they would most prefer to see in office. With ranked choice, voters select whom they prefer the most as a first choice, which one they prefer slightly less as second, next most preferred as third, and so on.



BASED ON GRAPHIC BY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

The process of RCV is iterative and computer managed. Successive rounds are triggered until either all positions are filled, or no candidates can pass the threshold.

This would not be as dramatic of a change as plurality-to-ranked choice transitions typically are since Greenbelt voters already have the chance to select more than one choice. However, in our current plurality system, voters will sometimes not vote at all for their second-most-preferred candidate in order to increase the chances for their favorite winning. This including or

See **VOTING**, page 7

Fields, Basements Flooded With Intense Runoff to Lake

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Extreme weather has continued in Greenbelt over the last week. On Thursday, July 17, an excessive heat warning was issued for our area and the city advised residents of the availability of cooling centers at the Library, Community Center, Municipal Building, Youth Center and Police Station. Then, two days later the city was under a flash flood watch. On Saturday, July 19, more than two inches of rain fell rapidly in Greenbelt, and flooding occurred around the city, including Braden Field and the tennis courts.

Impact on Greenbelt Lake

The repository for much of the deluge was Greenbelt Lake, where water cascaded in from Braden Field and over the culverts and forebay area at the south end of the lake. There, close to Charlestowne North and Lakecrest Drive, water engulfed the area where sediment is supposed to be filtered out, and rushed over the path. Public Information Officer Chondria Andrews said that city staff noticed



PHOTO BY NATHAN GERDES

Water cascades through the forebay and cove area of Greenbelt Lake during Saturday's storm.

storm damage at the forebay/cove area, including soil erosion.

In response to questions from the News Review, Director of Planning and Community De-

velopment Terri Hruby said the construction site at 7010 Greenbelt Road has a Prince George's

See **FLOODING**, page 12

Goddard Director Resigns Amid Space Center's Uncertain Future

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Monday, July 21, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's (GSFC) Center Director Mackenzie Lystrup announced in a message to colleagues that she will be "stepping aside." The final day for Lystrup, who joined GSFC in April 2023, will be August 1.

The announcement comes as NASA faces the prospect of deep cuts should President Trump's funding plan succeed, but also as Congress seems prepared to push back to save NASA's funding. Under Trump's proposal, GSFC stands to lose 48 percent of its civil servants, if one draws a direct correlation between funding and workforce (for more see the July 17 issue). On Sunday, July 20, protestors gathered outside NASA HQ in Washington, D.C., on "Moon Day," a day commemorating the 1969 Apollo 11 mission and the first steps on the moon.

Lystrup didn't say what her next steps would be but announced Deputy Center Director Cynthia Simmons would take the position of Acting Center Director. "I leave with confidence in Cynthia, the center leadership team, and all of you who will help shape the next chapter of this center. I am honored to have been a part of this incredible journey with you. It has been my privilege," Lystrup wrote in



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE DORAN

Greenbelters and others demonstrate outside the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in downtown Washington, D.C., on Sunday, July 20, to protest upcoming proposed budget cuts to NASA that will affect NASA Goddard in particular.

the message to her colleagues, which the News Review obtained a copy of. In a separate message, Acting NASA Associate Administrator Vanessa Wyche expressed gratitude to Lystrup for leading over 8,000 civil servants and contractors at GSFC for over two years and wished her well in future endeavors.

The loss of the center's director at this critical time sounds like bad news for GSFC, where workers are bracing for bad news and a potential Reduction in Force. Though some remain hopeful Congress will protect NASA's budget and the Science Mission Directorate (SMD) that is Goddard's primary

funding source, it's possible even then that Trump could withhold or refuse to spend money appropriated by Congress.

See **NASA**, page 2

What Goes On

Monday, July 28 to Friday, August 1
No city council meetings this week.

See the city ad on page 5 and the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.

Superintendent's Total Severance Tops \$733,992 but by How Much?

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

After 30 days exactly, the maximum time allowable by law, the Office of the General Counsel of Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) responded to the Greenbelt News Review's Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) request for details of the separation and compensation paid or owed to Former Superintendent Millard House II.

PGCPS' counsel responded by sending a separation document that included no dollar amounts or financial figures at all. Other news outlets, who would also have received responses to similarly timed MPIAs likely received the same information,

leaving the Washington Post to report that House will receive "at least \$730,000," for example; and other newsrooms to use similarly approximate terms.

What we know from the separation agreement that was signed June 12 is that PGCPS and House have "mutually agreed" to terminate his contract early, when it should have run to June 30, 2027, and he'll receive a variety of compensations, most notably two years of salary. In the separation agreement, PGCPS Board Chair Brannndon Jackson and House "acknowledge no fault or breach of any

See **SEVERANCE**, page 8

Greenbelt Pride



PHOTO BY VICKI CHEESEMAN

The Pride Parade marches in full technicolor from Spellman Overpass. See story and more photos on p. 12.

NASA continued from page 1

The Impoundment Control Act of 1974 seeks to limit that possibility and assure Congress retains the “power of the purse.”

NASA is losing thousands of employees, some through the Deferred Resignation Program, Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Separation Incentive Program, announced in June, when the SMD was asked to plan for a 50 percent reduction (see the June 12 issue). However, others are fighting back. One Greenbelter who has been among those attending recent protests for the agency said a strong message at those events has been not to comply in advance. On July 16, Zoe Lofgren, Ranking Member of the House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and Valerie P. Foushee, Ranking Member of its Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, sent a joint letter to NASA’s Interim Administrator Sean Duffy writing with “rising alarm for the future of NASA” and expressing just such an objection to advance compliance. “The notion that any executive branch agency would unilaterally take steps to implement a budget proposal before its budget is enacted by Congress is therefore offensive to our constitutional system. It would be illegal,”

wrote Lofgren and Foushee.

“We believe the funding freezes currently being implemented at NASA, and across numerous other federal science agencies within the Committee’s jurisdiction, represent an overt act to carry out the White House’s directive to ‘align’ present-day agency spending with next year’s proposed budget. It should be obvious that such actions lack any authorization from Congress whatsoever and are flatly illegal. In taking these steps, the Trump Administration is violating the law, the Constitution, and the fundamental checks and balances between the branches of government that have governed our nation for more than two centuries,” reads the letter to Duffy. “NASA is currently operating under a continuing resolution for Fiscal Year 2025 that maintains largely the same funding levels for the agency as the previous year’s budget for Fiscal Year 2024,” state the pair, saying “roughly 2,700 employees and counting have accepted ‘deferred resignation’ offers amidst a campaign of pressure and intimidation overseen by senior agency officials,” and “This is impoundment in action, and it must stop immediately.”



Drop us a Line!

Electronically, that is.

editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

The Last Class

American political economist, professor, author and social media sensation Robert Reich worked under presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter. He served as Secretary of Labor in President Bill Clinton’s cabinet and as a member of President Barack Obama’s economic transition advisory board. This documentary feature is a nuanced and deeply personal portrait of Reich as he reflects on a period of immense transformation, personally and globally. The former Secretary of Labor might be famous for his public service, best-selling books and viral social media posts, but he always considered teaching his true calling. Now, after over 40 years and an extraordinary 40,000 students, Reich is preparing for his last class. Over the course of the film, Reich confronts the impending finality, and his own aging, with increasing candor, introspection and, ultimately, emotion. Drawing on his lifetime in politics, he uses his class, *Wealth and Poverty*, to offer us all a deeper look at why inequalities of income and wealth have widened significantly since the late 1970s, and why this poses dangerous risks to our society.

Superman

When Superman (David Corenswet) gets drawn into conflicts at home and abroad, his actions are questioned, giving tech billionaire Lex Luthor the opportunity to get the Man of Steel out of the way for good. Will intrepid reporter Lois Lane (Rachel Brosnahan) and Superman’s four-legged companion, Krypto, be able to help him before it’s too late? Said critic Coleman Spilde of Salon.com, “It is genuinely heartening to see a movie this massive refuse to shy away from how divided and broken our world is.”

Becoming Led Zeppelin

Interviews, performances and never-before-seen footage provide insight into the origins of Led Zeppelin and their meteoric rise to musical stardom. The critics’ consensus, is according to Rotten Tomatoes, “Presenting the origins of Led Zeppelin with laser focus, this doc isn’t the definitive document on the band but blows the roof off with its killer soundtrack.”

Tomorrowland

Whenever Casey Newton (Britt Robertson) touches a lapel pin with the letter T on it, she finds herself transported to Tomorrowland, a city filled with huge robots and sleek buildings. The gifted young woman recruits the help of scientist Frank Walker (George Clooney), a previous visitor to Tomorrowland, who years ago made a startling discovery about the future. Together, the two adventurers travel to the metropolis to uncover its mysterious secrets.

Greenbelt CORES Invites Solutions

Greenbelt residents frustrated by the Trump administration’s effects on federal services, scientific research, federal employees, humanitarian aid and international affairs began working with each other and the city to invite Greenbelt residents’ input to generate and begin implementing 100 solutions to set a brighter course for Greenbelt.

The CORES webpages say that “Greenbelt CORES (Collaborative Opportunities for Resilient & Enduring Solutions) is being organized by residents with city support with a goal to develop at least 100 solutions over the next 90 days to keep Greenbelt wonderful, welcoming and built to last. We must act to make Greenbelt a place that thrives no matter what.”

The following forms invite residents’ initial ideas, including identifying issues needing solutions and offering their skills.

English: <https://tinyurl.com/ycxbx65a>

Español: <https://forms.office.com/r/Txcz8imG5f>



Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org
Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!
After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9
Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
JULY 25th - 31st

The Last Class
(NR) (2025) (71 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 1:30 PM, 3:30 PM
Tue. 7:15 PM
Wed. 5:45 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:30 PM, 7:45 PM
Sat. 5:15 PM, 7:30 PM
Mon. 2:15 PM, 5:15 PM
Thurs. 7:15 PM

Superman (PG-13) (CC)
(DVS) (2025) (129 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:15 PM, 8:00 PM
Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM
Mon. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:00 PM
Thurs. 7:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sun. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM
Tue. 7:00 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM

Becoming Led Zeppelin
(PG-13) (2025) (121 mins)
Summer Concert Series
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Wed. 7:30 PM

Tomorrowland
(PG) (2015) (130 mins)
School’s Out! - FREE
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 1:00 PM



- News Review, August 8, 2016

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Obituaries

Patrick Carroll

Patrick Carroll died on July 8, 2025. He was born on April 19, 1957, and grew up in Bethesda, where he lived for most of his life. He attended Good Counsel High School and the University of Maryland where he attained a degree in criminology. He fondly remembered friends from high school and the good times they had hanging out at the Bethesda Crab Shack.

Previously a chef for the Marriott Corporation, he started at Prince George’s County Department of Social Services in 1987. A social worker in residential care, Pat helped countless numbers of kids and families with emotional and physical disabilities. He retired in 2017 after 30 years.

Pat moved to Greenbelt in 2006 where he continued his commitment to supporting youth by serving on the Greenbelt Youth Advisory Committee. He enjoyed participating in many Greenbelt activities including going to the pool, to festivals in Roosevelt Center and to the Greenbelt Cinema, American Legion and New Deal Café.

After retirement he enjoyed numerous cruises but especially enjoyed time in Ocean City. A continuous learner, he enjoyed participating in the Prince George’s Community College SAGE program where he took several classes every semester. An exceptionally kind person, he was always willing to help others.

He is preceded in death by his parents Ida Mae and Bernard E. Carroll and brothers William and Mark. He is survived by his brother Timothy Carroll. Interment was held at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Mary Emma Hooper



Mary Emma Hooper

Mary Emma Hooper, a longtime resident of Greenbelt, died peacefully on July 10, 2025, at the age of 98, just weeks shy of her 99th birthday.

Mary was born on August 15, 1926, to Elsie Viola Lyles Kelley Tucker and Marion Elmer Tucker. She worked for 30 years in the Press Release Office at the White House, serving under seven presidents. She took great pride in her work and enjoyed sharing stories of her time there.

Her love for dancing began in her younger years and continued for as long as she could find a willing dance partner. She traveled extensively, enjoyed theater

outings and cherished trips to the beach with her girlfriends. A familiar face at community events, Mary managed to keep moving, often at a pace that surprised those around her.

Mary was a proud and engaged member of the Greenbelt community. She was active in several local organizations, including the Golden Age Club, the Greenbelt American Legion Post 136, Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service (GIVES), Beltsville Young at Heart Club and Laurel Senior Friendship Club. She also regularly volunteered with the City of Greenbelt’s monthly food distribution efforts.

Mary will be remembered for her independence, quick mind, strong will and appreciation for a good meal.

Mary was predeceased by her brother, John Amos Kelley. She is survived by her nieces Patricia Keefe (Steve) and Paula Puglisi (Charles); great-nieces Kelley Osbourn (Ozzie) and Dawn Richardson (Eddie), and their families; great-nephew Charles Puglisi, II, and his family; and a host of great-great-nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Mass was held at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church, 135 Crescent Road, on Tuesday, July 22 at 10 a.m. A private interment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mary’s memory to GIVES at givesgreenbelt.org/donate-today.



Marguerite Kincius



Marguerite Kincius

Marguerite Kincius died on July 15, 2025, at Grace House Assisted Living in Silver Spring. She was a resident of Greenbelt for over 70 years. She recently celebrated turning 100 years old this past February.

She was born Marguerite Ellen O’Connor in 1925, in Mount Rainier, the youngest of five children. She attended St. James Catholic Elementary School in Mount Rainier and Immaculate Conception Academy High School for girls in Washington, D.C.

She began her career working for the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), and worked later for the federal government in Washington, D.C.

In 1950, Marguerite met and married Kazimer Kincius and soon after moved into Greenbelt and began to raise a family of one girl and three boys.

She was a parishioner of St. Hugh of Grenoble Church and a member of the Ladies Sodality.

In the early 1960s she returned to the workforce at the See OBITUARIES, page 8

PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY



Condolences to the family, friends and fellow parishioners of Marguerite Kincius, a mainstay of the Greenbelt community for more than 70 years.

Our sympathy also to the large family and many friends of Mary Hooper, who was a proud and engaged member of many Greenbelt organizations, particularly GIVES, the Golden Age Club and St. Hugh’s Church.

Our condolences to the friends and family of Pat Carroll, a kind and vibrant member of the Greenbelt community for nearly 20 years.

Larry Flynn and Yvette Duboscq are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter, Elise, who grew up here, to Daniel Roybal. The couple were married in Santa Fe, N.M., with the bride’s mother’s older sister, MC, and the groom’s father’s older

brother, Benny, acting as officiants. The couple met while working on their Ph.Ds. at Columbia University in New York City, and plan to continue to live there after a honeymoon trip to Mexico.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



Elise Duboscq and Daniel Roybal marry in New Mexico.

PHOTO COURTESY DAVID JESSE

www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

“Let your thoughts be fixed upon that which will rehabilitate the fortunes of mankind.” – Bahá’u’lláh



Greenbelt Bahá’í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

A Roman Catholic
Intentional Eucharistic
Community

COME TO OUR NEW LOCATION

Community Center Room 114

15 Crescent Rd

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
[CCG1985+owner@groups.io](https://ccg1985+owner@groups.io)

The Bible Says...

**This I know
that God is for me.**
Psalm 56:9b



Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
(66 Ridge Rd.)

MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue
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Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



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Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



July 27, 2025 at 3 p.m.

**The Gifts of Presence:
Deep Gratitude for the Living World**

Mary Rooker with Worship Associate Anne Hoover

We’ll share how our being present to the living world can give us presents. After the service, please join us over snacks for informal conversation.

Streaming on PBUUC’s Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
www.myholycross.org
Sunday Worship: 9:30 A.M.
Bible Study: 11:15 A.M.

Thursday Thrift Store
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Season of Rest

St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for
Worship & Sunday School
at 10:00 AM



We Are an Open and
Affirming Church

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COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

One Hillside Road

Join Us Sunday
10:15 AM for Worship

www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

*Live
streamed
on
Facebook
and
available
on our
YouTube
page later.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org

City Notes

Constituent Services offered Know Your Rights outreach in Beltway Plaza, and Economic Development attended the Entrepreneurship Fair at Bowie State University. Planning and Community Development and Public Safety/Community joined Green Ridge House residents for lunch.

Public Works prepared a cemetery grave, provided 147 Greenbelt Connection rides and, with Park Rangers, facilitated Pride festivities. Horticulture/Parks cleared storm damage and repaired two benches at Roosevelt Center.

Environmental/Sustainability hosted the Maryland Recycling Network quarterly meeting and, with Rangers, removed the invasive plant trapa from Greenbelt Lake. Aquatic & Fitness Center staff cleared construction debris from the indoor pool.

Animal Shelter residents are three cats, six kittens, a dog and a puppy.

Community Center staff and Recreation and Public Works installed new Senior Lounge furniture.

Camp Encore performed at the Arts Center. Arts staff offered Parents’ Night Out and a jewelry workshop.

At the Museum, campers used washboards and learned about housework in early Greenbelt. Rangers hosted a nature walk for Kinder Campers.

Free Summer Run Series for All

Prince George’s Running Club (PGRC) announces the return of its free, fun and family-friendly Summer Fun Run Series, held every Thursday evening through August 14 at Buddy Attick Park in Greenbelt. Whether you’re a seasoned runner, casual jogger or looking for a fun way to move with the kids, PGRC welcomes participants of all ages and all paces.

Each week at 7 p.m., runners, walkers and families will gather for a relaxed and supportive “choose-your-own-adventure” style run. Participants can select a 1.75-mile loop (one lap) or opt for a 3.1-mile route (two laps) – and change it up week to week based on mood, weather or personal goals. “The Summer Fun Run Series is one of our favorite ways to connect with the community,” said a PGRC spokesperson. “It’s a great opportunity to get outdoors, enjoy the lake and move at one’s own pace – with no pressure and plenty of encouragement.” This series is open to everyone – club members and nonmembers alike – and provides a perfect chance to enjoy the scenic trails of Buddy Attick Park, build healthy habits and meet fellow community members.

For more information, visit pgrc.org or follow PGRC on social media. PGRC is a welcoming, inclusive community of runners and walkers in Prince George’s County. The club offers group runs, races, training programs and social events year-round, promoting health, fitness and fellowship through running.



The road to heaven is paved with good advertising.
Nonprofits \$12.15
www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

MEETINGS FOR JULY 28 - AUGUST 1

Monday, July 28, **NO MEETING - SUMMER RECESS**

Wednesday, July 30, **NO MEETING - SUMMER RECESS**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

FEATURED PET - ROSE

Ready for Adoption? Call (301) 474-6124.

Her name may be Rose, but this sweet lady has no thorns! 11-year-old Rose was surrendered a few weeks ago after living with her previous owners her whole life. She was pretty scared being back at the shelter, but Rose really blossomed! She is SO affectionate and warms up to new people quickly with loud purrs and asking for belly rubs. Since Rose can be nervous in new or loud environments, she may do best in a quieter home.



If you're interested in meeting this sweet Rose, call (301) 474-6124 or email animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov!

MEDICAID TOWN HALL

Wednesday, July 30, 10 am - 12 pm
Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

Join us for a Town Hall marking the 60th Anniversary of Medicaid with Maryland State Delegate Ashanti Martinez and Congressman Glenn Ivey. We'll discuss what the "One Big Beautiful Bill" means for Prince George's County and healthcare access in light of federal cuts.

JOIN THE CHARTER REVIEW TASKFORCE

Are you passionate about shaping the future of our city? Do you want to have a say in how our local government operates? Now is your chance to make a difference!

The City of Greenbelt is forming a Charter Review Task Force to evaluate and recommend changes to our city's charter. We are looking for dedicated residents who are eager to contribute their time and expertise to this important process.

Submit an application at the following link: <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/application-for-appointment-to-boards-and-committees>.

For more information or to apply, please contact City Clerk at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 474-3870.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter.

Learn more at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources>.

ELECTRONICS, STYROFOAM, & PAINT RECYCLING

Saturday, July 26, 9 am - 12 pm
Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent

Electronics Recycling - Accepted: CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, fax machines, wires, power cords.
NO - ALKALINE BATTERIES or CFLs; NO - TUBE TVs.

Expanded Polystyrene - White, block Styrofoam #6. NEW: egg cartons and food trays!

PAINT RECYCLING!

Cost—\$5 per container. DO NOT mix paint in other containers. If you are unable to attend the event, you may hire this service directly to come to your home for an additional \$100 service fee. Contact: Yuck Old Paint, LLC 888-509-9825 (YUCK) or www.YuckOldPaint.com. Contact Public Works at (301) 474-8004 with any questions or concerns.

Contact Public Works at (301) 474-8004.

PINK PANTRY

The Pink Pantry provides free menstrual products to Greenbelt residents, including pads, tampons, and wipes from trusted brands like Cora, Always, Rael, HoneyPot, and more!

To receive these products, register by contacting Brendy Garcia at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR FOR GREENBELT FAMILIES

Tuesday, August 19 from 10 am - 1 pm
Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

Join us for a fun and resource-packed Back to School Health Fair! Must be a Greenbelt resident.

To register, contact Brendy Garcia at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS 101

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 10 AM - 12 PM
Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road

Join Greenbelt's Environmental Coordinator and Park Rangers as we learn about the habitat, life cycles, and identifying characteristics of turtles, snakes, frogs, and more!

Email kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov or visit our [Sign-up Genius page](#).

COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Charter Review Task Force, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

DFA Northern Prince George's County Presents FREE WEBINARS

Thursdays at 7 pm, Zoom

These webinars are offered by the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program and begin at 7:00 PM via GoTo Webinar.

July 26: Strategies for Improving Communication with Alzheimer's Diseases
Sept 11: Enhancing Communication with a Person with Dementia
Sept 25: When Words Fade: Caring for Someone with Dementia
Oct 9: Brain Health
Oct 23: Medicare Options for 2026
Nov 6: When is it More than Forgetfulness
Nov 13: A Deep Dive Into The Five Dementias

For more information or to register, contact Brendy Maddox at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

FREE Mosaic Workshops. Help create the colorful mosaic surface that will adorn a joyful new sculpture being created for the Braden Athletic Complex! Su, 8/3 Artful Afternoon, 1pm and 2pm. All ages! Seniors: enjoy a special workshop on W, 8/6, at 11:30am. Use the tabs at the top to sign up for either date here: sugeni.us/VBCo.

Pet Portrait Painting. F, 7/25 & 8/1, 6-8pm. *Greenbelt Community Center.* Capture the individual personality of your pet or of any animal in a unique painting. All experience levels welcome!

Personality Planters. Th, 7/31-8/1 10:30am-12:30pm. *Greenbelt Community Center.* Learn to hand-build and decorate a ceramic planter, and explore glazing textures on a coaster. All materials provided. Ages 16+.

MORE ARTS IN JUNE

- Artful Afternoon** 8/10, 1:30pm, *Springhill Lake Recreation Center.* Enjoy a FREE make-and-take mosaic activity! Sign up here: sugeni.us/VAbW.
- Creative Kids Camp Performs Memory Quest in Central Park** 8/1, 10am & 2:15pm, *Greenbelt Community Center*
- Circus Camp Presents Under the Big Top** 8/1, 1pm, *Greenbelt Community Center*

NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR ARPA PED/BIKE PROJECTS

Throughout the month of July, 2025, a City contractor will begin construction on new and updated pedestrian ramps in advance of Public Works installing marked mid-block crosswalks. Construction will occur in the vicinity of the following five locations and will include removal of parking spaces both for construction and for establishing safe sight distances at the new crosswalks.

- Southway, between Crescent Road and Ridge Road
- Ridge Road, between 31 Ct. and 33 Ct.
- Ridge Road, at the pathway between 33 Ct. and 35 Ct.
- Ridge Road, at the pathway adjacent to 43 Ct.
- Hillside Road north of Crescent Road

Please contact Jaime Fearer, Assistant Director of Planning, with questions at jfearer@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 542-2040.

FREE Mobile Document Shredding, E-waste, and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Disposal

Must be in line by 1 PM to receive service.

- July 26**, Largo Government Center, 9200 Basil Court, Largo
- August 16**, Largo Government Center, 9200 Basil Court, Largo
- September 13**, Accokeek Library, 15773 Livingston Road, Accokeek
- September 27**, Surrattsville High School, 9200 Basil Court, Clinton
- October 11**, Dr. Henry Wise High School, 12650 Brooke Lane, Upper Marlboro
- October 25**, High Point High School, 13601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville

See list of accepted items at environment.mypgc.us/wastefacilities

CAREGIVER NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Your feedback will help us better understand your needs and how we can support you. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/4e5F6ds to get started! **The deadline to complete the survey is September 3.**

For more information, contact Brendy Garcia at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

Brought to you by Dementia Friendly America, The Maryland Umbrella Group, Prince George's County Health Department, and the City of Greenbelt.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

Council Deliberates Economic Development, Election, More

by Matthew Arbach

At the July 14 Greenbelt City Council meeting, topics ranged from elections to county property to the Save as You Throw proposal for city waste. An election discussion considered whether noncitizens, who will be able to vote in city elections this year, should also be allowed to run for office and whether 16-year-olds should work polls. There were updates on projects and purchases, discussion of the need for lobbying services and other matters.

Proclamations, Requests

July was proclaimed Parks and Recreation Month.

New Deal Café (NDC) Board President John Campanile said the café is seeking to transition from a Class C liquor license that allows beer and wine to a Class B which would add hard liquor. The Prince George’s County Liquor Board approved the request on July 22. Council adopted their frequent neutral stance on these types of matters, with Councilmember Rodney Roberts stating his general objection to the availability of alcohol in our society, believing it would not noticeably enhance the NDC’s business. Resident Michael Hartman, former president of the NDC board, reminded council it supported the NDC’s acquisition of the Class B license in 2002. (The council debate on the issue was reported in the September 19, 2002, issue.)

Council voted into the meeting’s minutes that they had had two recent closed sessions. The first was on June 18 and dealt with personnel matters and public safety, with no actions taken. The second was on June 30 and covered real estate acquisition, with City Manager Josué Salmerón tasked to seek related legal counsel services.

City Manager’s Report

Salmerón reported that the Economic Development team convened a successful nonprofit breakfast roundtable on July 10. The next American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) financial report will be submitted on July 30. The construction of two new pavilions at Buddy Attick Park has begun. The city has reached an agreement with Pepco to install eight level 2 and two DC fast EV charging stations at the Community Center at a cost of \$150,000. A rodent problem at Hunting Ridge has been resolved with the help of the city’s Code Enforcement Department. The new bike racks for Roosevelt Center have been ordered. Two new Greenbelt police officers have been sworn in, with another expected shortly. A revised grant agreement was submitted to the Safe Streets For All program, and Salmerón noted more frequent traffic injuries are often tied to socioeconomic reasons.

First Readings

There was a first reading of a resolution that dealt with negotiated purchases of certain goods and services, by certain vendors when total fiscal year purchases from the vendor exceeds \$10,000. It stressed that bid proposals are not warranted as some vendors are the sole source or best source of purchase.

Another first reading concerned the Save as You Throw



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE DORAN

Construction is underway on two pavilions at Buddy Attick Park that will be available to rent. This one, pictured on Thursday, July 17, is at the elevated picnic area to the left of the main entrance from the parking lot, behind the wildflower meadow.

solid waste removal pilot program, outlining an opt-in and opt-out choice. Sustainability Coordinator Luisa Robles presented a third option from program creator Waste Zero. It consisted of a yearly base fee of \$240 for all, with residents then given the chance to participate and purchase bags as needed or opt out and pay \$140 for a sticker. This was considered an easier approach for staff. Council deferred this item to give council and the public time to consider this new option. Staff is awaiting a response from Greenbelt Homes, Inc., about their decision on their level of involvement in this proposed program.

Medical Center

Community Planner Ryan Sigworth assisted council in reviewing the mandatory referral from the county pertaining to the county-owned property at 9001 Edmonston Road. This project transitions the site from general office usage to a medical one with the relocation of 11 County Health Department Divisions, a move the city supports. Sigworth said that the county agreed to do a traffic study, as this change would increase the number of trips to the area. Council voted to send a letter to the county outlining its preferences for an outdoor/picnic lunch area, improved vehicular wayfinding signage, removal of a dangerous crosswalk from the entry location and improved lighting.

Elections

The Board of Elections sought guidance on whether or not to allow noncitizen residents to run for council. (Noncitizens can vote in city elections beginning this year.) Council decided to postpone this decision, citing the already progressing candidate assessment process. Council expressed no strong objection to the idea, with several stating that they thought it unlikely such an issue would ever arise.

Council voted to allow 16-year-olds to work in city polling stations. Councilmember Kristen Weaver felt it was a good learning experience, with Board of Elections Chair Steve Gilbert favorable to it, seeing no serious complications.

Lobbying Services

The Maryland Municipal League and its subsidiary Prince George’s County Municipal Association have discontinued their lobbying services, thus removing the city’s access to information and advocacy concerning legislation at the county and state level. Discussion revealed probable need to enlist a multiprovider

approach to cover both county and state, which have their own processes. Salmerón and staff will submit a survey to council to determine the best scope-of-work desired, prior to contracting an advisory entity. Council felt it was possible neighboring municipalities might share in the cost.

Road Resurfacing

Council approved a contract with VMP Construction for road resurfacing on Crescent Road (Lastner to Southway), the Youth Center maintenance road and the Municipal Building and Community Center parking lots for \$1 million and miscellaneous concrete work for \$150,000. The concrete work should start July 28, with the paving to begin after Labor Day to minimize traffic impact.

Other Expenditures

Council approved the purchase by the Greenbelt Police Department of two Ford Police Interceptor hybrid SUVs and one Chevrolet Blazer EV for \$148,045. These are replacement vehicles. Four thousand dollars was approved from the city’s miscellaneous funds to replace the furniture in the Senior Lounge at the Community Center.

Cooling and Warming Centers

Councilmember Jenni Pompi introduced an idea to expand the city’s cooling and warming centers, citing the recent, dangerous heat waves and the inequity in the stations’ locations, with the majority in Greenbelt Center. Council suggested approaching businesses, HOAs and schools for their possible contributions. Salmerón said city shuttles could be enlisted to transport people in need. Salmerón was asked to begin conversations throughout the city to address this issue.



Greenbelt Farmers Market

Sundays 10a - 2p

Southway and Centerway

GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

Trump Administration Policies Now Threaten Maryland’s Climate Efforts

by Sam Gauntt

Universities and research institutions across Maryland face extensive funding cuts. Disappearing, too, are federal incentives to move to clean energy sources, as President Donald Trump works to repeal state laws aimed at addressing climate change. Meanwhile, scores of employees at federal environmental agencies, including many from Maryland, have already lost or could soon lose their jobs.

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins spelled out May 8 on Fox Business news, under the Trump administration, “We’re not doing that climate change, you know, crud anymore.”

Trump has long called climate change “a hoax” and, since returning to office in January, his administration has treated it as such. This about-face in federal climate policy is impacting almost every aspect of efforts to address environmental and climate issues by Maryland and other states across the country.

Climate change experts and state government officials warn these funding cuts and other federal actions could set Maryland’s climate efforts back years.

The changes come at a delicate time for the state’s environment, regardless of the federal government.

The Money

Maryland entered its annual legislative session facing a \$3 billion budget deficit, leading Governor Wes Moore to direct the state to cut more than \$250 million from its four environmental agencies.

On top of that, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) recently downgraded the Chesapeake Bay’s health from a C+ to a C in its annual report card due to worsening weather patterns.

Adam Ortiz, deputy secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment, said the Trump administration has put the state’s climate, environmental and clean energy projects “on the chopping block.” “The biggest exposure and liability is to everyday people,” he said.

Through July 15, the National Weather Service issued 3,045 flood warnings this year – more

than any year in modern history. This summer’s floods range from those that led to a state of emergency in Western Maryland in May to the July 4 torrent in Texas that has claimed more than 130 lives and the recent flash floods that hit the northern D.C. area on July 19 (see page 1 for the report of that flooding in Greenbelt).

The Federal Emergency Management Agency’s decision to cut the disaster mitigation program hasn’t gone unchallenged. On July 16, a coalition of 20 states, including Maryland, filed a lawsuit in federal court disputing the agency’s authority to cut the program without prior approval from Congress and seeking a permanent injunction to restore its funding.

On July 16, Maryland Attorney General Anthony Brown said it is “the worst possible time to cut life-saving disaster preparedness funding.” “Any community in Maryland can be struck by a devastating natural disaster that forever changes the lives of those who live there,” Brown said.

The Trump administration isn’t just cutting flood control funding. Over the last six months, Trump has sought to cancel more than \$23.3 billion in clean energy grants nationwide, according to the Climate Program Portal. Trump is also seeking to cut billions in funding for federal environmental agencies, including a roughly \$2 billion proposed cut to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and a proposed almost \$5 billion cut to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Because federal agencies are picking up less of the bill, Maryland has been forced to find new ways to generate revenue to cover spending on climate, environmental and energy projects, said Ortiz, the EPA’s former top administrator for the mid-Atlantic region. One way has been by increasing the cost of inspection and enforcement fees that haven’t been raised in decades.

“The state is trying to pick up a lot of the slack, since

See CLIMATE, page 8

Kim Kash’s Listings

Scan the QR code to check out everything that Kim Kash currently has on the market!

Kim Kash of Compass

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VOTING continued from page 1

excluding of certain candidates is a way of implicitly signaling the voter’s ranking of candidates. Ranked choice explicitly allows the expression of preference.

Instant Runoff

There are many ways a ranked choice system can be implemented, and the one under discussion with council is a version commonly known as instant runoff. At a single election, voters rank their choices as they see fit. Ballots are collected and a threshold of victory (as a percentage of votes cast) is determined based on the size of the electorate. For example, if the threshold is 30 percent, a candidate must have 30 percent of the voters pick them as their first choice.

Candidates who reach the threshold of votes win outright in this first round. If no one wins or all seats are not filled, instead of going back to the electorate for a runoff, the candidate who received the fewest votes is eliminated and the already-cast preferences for the remaining candidates are tallied.

The voters whose first-choice candidates were eliminated (either by being elected or eliminated) have their votes redistributed to their respective second choices (there are a number of options for how this is done). The votes are tabulated again and whichever candidates reach the threshold are elected. Rounds continue until all slots are filled. In practice, only a few rounds or a re-establishment of threshold are required to complete the process – and no second election is required, potentially saving time and money.

Visualizing RCV

The League of Women Voters created a helpful graphic, which we modified slightly, to illustrate the decision-making process that goes on with ranked choice voting. The loop through the votes is repeated to work through the preference scores until all seats are filled.

Minnesota and Monotonicity

Linked to the presentation to council is a helpful explanation by Minnesota Public Radio simulating ranked choice voting via instant runoff (youtube.com/watch?v=INxwMdl8OWw). The clip illustrates the process using different-color sticky notes coupled with clear, if simplified, narration but, unlike Greenbelt, fills only one opening.

One issue, however, that came up during the worksession and in the simulation is that in a ranked choice election under certain circumstances, a candidate can be ahead in the first round of voting and still lose, depending exactly how candidates are eliminated and votes are redistributed.

This potential reversal is related to a mathematical property called monotonicity. This means the outcome of a system either stays going in one direction, like an escalator going up (monotonic) or goes up and down like a roller coaster (not monotonic). In a voting system, monotonic would mean that a candidate ahead in one round would continue to be ahead in the next: but RCV systems are not monotonic. (See box).

The lack of monotonicity raises the possibility that a candidate might gain more support depending on which round they make it to and a candidate who was initially ahead could then lose. A community member alluded to

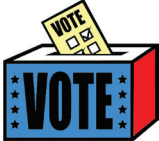
Monotonicity

Monotonicity is math-speak for “always heading in the same direction.” A monotonic function either gets bigger forever, or smaller forever.

A perfect ranked choice election system, by definition, would be monotonic and not change an individual’s ranking relative to others over the course of the election, i.e., would not allow a previously lower-ranked candidate to overtake a previously higher-ranked candidate in the later rounds. Monotonicity is, therefore, a desired characteristic of election schemes and is described in gory detail at electowiki.org/wiki/Monotonicity.

Plurality voting (what we do now) is monotonic mostly because it’s a one-shot deal (unless you end up with a runoff, where all bets are off).

To achieve monotonicity there are four math-based criteria that must be met and none of the several ranked choice systems available intrinsically meet all four as they play out round by round (none guarantee the outcome of an election doesn’t flip the initial rankings.) Only two of the many possible RCV systems, one being Greenbelt’s proposed instant runoff scheme, innately meet as many as three out of the four criteria, and (in the way of math) it seems impossible that any RCV scheme could meet all four.



this possibility and noted that it could lead some voters, especially those without much experience, to become suspicious of the process and lead to demoralization or even allegations of fraud.

Education, Transparency

There were a number of perspectives voiced during the council worksession but one through-line among proponents and detractors alike is that education and greater transparency must be central to any proposed change to the current system of voting.

Changes proposed, be they to do with the size of districts or the manner of voting, will likely draw different reactions from different groups of voters and community members, and come with complications and nuances not immediately observable to the average person. As such there was consensus in the meeting that such changes should be made as clear as possible and subject to democratic determination.

Cathie Meetre assisted in the preparation of this story.

Franklin Returns to County Council As Chief of Staff for Calvin Hawkins

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Prince George’s County Council Member Jamel “Mel” Franklin suddenly resigned from his At-Large seat on County Council after 14 years in June 2024, shortly before he was charged with felony theft and perjury. He pleaded guilty in August 2024 and, in November 2024, Franklin was sentenced to five years in prison, with all but one year suspended, and three years of supervised probation, for one count of felony theft scheme over \$100,000, and five years incarceration, all suspended, for one count of perjury, to run concurrently. He was ordered to pay \$133,168.67 in restitution.

At the time of his sentencing, the Office of the Maryland State Prosecutor said that for 2014 to 2023, “Franklin stole at least \$133,168.67 from his campaign committee and used those funds to pay for, among other things, international trips, hotels, dinners, cosmetic procedures for himself and a close friend, and personal hotel-stays.”

Franklin was released from jail in June. This week Franklin announced via social media that he has been appointed as Chief of Staff to At-Large Prince George’s County Council Member Calvin Hawkins II.

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The Three Brothers Restaurant Chain Sold to Family Buyer

by Cathie Meetre

Three Brothers has been sold. It’s like the ground just shifted a few inches to one side. The News Review went on a site visit (with lasagna) to investigate.

Who Dunnit?

The purchaser is a long-time pizza store owner, Reagan Dahl, who recently re-located to this area from the west coast to be near his family. No conglomerates, and, like the Repoles, his family will be involved also. Not only that but an enquiry at the store about the brother who has been running the restaurant in recent years revealed that “Peter isn’t going anywhere for a while” and will facilitate as the new owners pick up the reins. This (hungry) reporter was also reassured that the name will stay the same and all the staff will be kept. “Nothing will change!” said my source, cheerfully.

A Facebook post on July 17 announced the sale, and a call to Jim McGillis, owner of The Restaurant Brokers who managed the process, confirmed it. McGillis, with 42 years specializing exclusively in restaurant sales, is clearly delighted with the outcome as he is a lifelong Berwyn Heights resident who has frequented Three Brothers since 1976 when they first opened.

Established 1976

Three Brothers moved its fledgling restaurant to Greenbelt from New York City in 1976, and

became a local fixture. Starting as a little hole in the wall at the west end of Beltway Plaza, it was an affordable lunchtime treat and a go-to place for a really yummy pizza. Later it moved to the Roy Rogers location when they left and eventually also took over mall offices behind it, keeping the totally reliable, simple food and the same efficient service style of ordering at the counter (but a lot more places to sit and eat it). No waiters, no starched tablecloths. No fuss.

Food for the Weary

Kids were fed after soccer, football and baseball games and the bar and food became an attractive element for the many sports teams and clubs that met there after a game, an aerobic dance class or swim meet. The menu widened but kept its hearty simplicity. The repertoire was based on family recipes cooked by their Mamma of the eponymous lasagna, Maria Repole, who grew up in Italy where the three brothers were born.

Brotherly Love

Back in the day, all three brothers were a fixture. Peter Repole managed the service upfront to the customers and kept up a steady and rapid pace with orders – collating them, chasing them, making sure they went out looking and tasting just right. Michael

See 3 BROTHERS, page 9

2025 Greenbelt Outstanding Citizen Nomination Form

Submit this form (or something equivalent) by **July 28** to
Bob Zugby
Outstanding Citizen Committee
94 Ridge Road, Greenbelt MD 20770
or OutstandingCitizenGB@gmail.com

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Attach a statement (preferably printed or typed) explaining why this nominee deserves recognition as Greenbelt’s Outstanding Citizen. You can include a list of organizations or activities in which the nominee has participated, including length of time, specific accomplishments, their impact upon Greenbelt or people within the City, and personal qualities that make the nominee special. Note this award is for *unpaid* volunteer work only.

Any supporting printed material is useful, but not required. Others’ testimonials are also helpful.

You may be contacted for additional information. If you prefer, send this form now and complete the statement later. The form and any additional information must be received no later than the **July 28 deadline**.

Nominated by:
Name(s) Signature(s) Telephone

We need your input—thank you!

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Dr. Richard Duarte are licensed general dentists.

SEVERANCE continued from page 1

provisions of the existing employment agreement.” House will receive a lump sum severance payout equal to 24 months’ salary and any “benefits.” He will additionally receive any unpaid performance bonuses or stipends and any “deferred compensation” and “annuity contributions” due under his contract.

House and his family will continue to receive medical, dental and vision coverage for at least 12 months and contributions to his tax-sheltered retirement account of up to 16 percent of his base salary for six months. He’ll also receive compensation for unused vacation and sick leave and retain the PGCPs owned laptop, mobile phone and iPad.

House’s base salary was \$345,000 when he joined PGCPs in 2023 but he received a Cost of Living Adjustment of 2.5 percent annually. Thus, for the last academic year his salary was \$353,625, as confirmed by the State of Maryland salary schedule, and the coming year it would have been over \$362,465. The Greenbelt News Review calculates the lump sum payout for the final two years of base salary alone, if COLA is factored in, will be equal to \$733,992.90.

Interim Superintendent Shawn Joseph joined PGCPs on July 1, with a base salary higher than House’s was projected to reach at \$365,000. His appointment was announced the day after House’s separation contract, on Friday, June 13. He was appointed by County Executive Elect Aisha Braveboy, prior to the start of her term on July 1.

House’s separation agreement was effective June 18, and also stipulated a joint public statement, “highlighting accomplishments under Superintendent’s tenure.” The agreement continues, “Under threat of penalty, the

Superintendent House’s Salary for Four Years, with 2.5 percent COLA calculation

2023-24 - \$345,000
2024-25 - \$353,625
2025-26 - \$362,465.63
2026-27 - \$371,527.27

The Greenbelt News Review calculates the lump sum payout for the final two years of base salary alone will be equal to \$733,992.90.

parties both individually and collectively shall permanently avoid any adverse communication; both parties agree to refrain from negative comments in public forums, including media,

social media platforms, or any format.”

The Greenbelt News Review is appealing PGCPs’ response to our MPIA request which asked for “total compensation paid or owed” not the text of the separation agreement. The News Review has also submitted a second MPIA for the total value of the separation agreement in dollars.

Several Greenbelt parents and residents expressed frustration at the cost to the school system of the separation agreement with House – which is not yet fully known – and the new Interim Superintendent’s salary, particularly at a time when funding for education is a challenge. PGCPs also paid out almost \$800,000 to Former Superintendent Kevin Maxwell in a separation agreement it reached with him in 2018. “Every taxpayer in the county has the right to be outraged. So does every single teacher,” said Brooke Kenny, Greenbelt parent of two children in PGCPs.

The author has two children who attend a Prince George’s County Public School.

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CLIMATE continued from page 6

the federal government has abandoned its support role,” Ortiz said.

The UMCES hasn’t yet lost any grants for which it was the primary recipient, but it has lost some for which it was a co-lead or secondary recipient, said Dave Nemazie, the center’s chief of staff and executive director of government affairs.

More than anything, Nemazie said, UMCES has seen an “overall slowdown” both of getting awards and of communication with federal partners. He said the center, which typically receives about 60 percent of its external funding from the federal government, is facing a 25 percent reduction in grants and awards for the 2026 fiscal year.

“The spigot is not flowing as fast,” he said. “And the communication has been much more complicated than it has in the past.”

Kristin Reilly, director of the Maryland-based Choose Clean Water Coalition, said funding cuts could have a “major impact” on Maryland’s climate restoration efforts. “Pretty much anything that you’re doing at the state level, there is a need for some level of federal investment that’s been counted on, that’s been incorporated and calculated into the state budgets,” she said. “If that isn’t going to continue, we’re going to have to make some really tough choices and have some really serious conversations, especially here in Maryland.”

The Policies

The recently passed “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” Trump’s signature policy effort, will have broad impacts on climate change and environmental justice funding and programs, too.

The budget reconciliation bill, signed into law by Trump in early July, removed incentives for clean energy, electric vehicles and efficient homes, which the bill describes as “Green New Deal subsidies.”



PHOTO BY BARRETT BEDFORD-DILLOW

High water at the spillway on the Lake Saturday evening, shortly after the July 19 storm.

Marisa Olszewski, Maryland League of Conservation Voters’ program manager for environment and community, described the current landscape as an “assault” on clean energy. The U.S. is throwing away its position as a global leader in clean energy, said Olszewski. “Once you pull back on that, it’s not like the rest of the world is going to wait for us to come back around and develop the technology, or put out the research,” she said. “They’re going to go ahead and do it without us.”

Trump’s Actions

Many of Trump’s executive actions have taken aim at clean energy programs.

In April, he signed an executive order titled Protecting American Energy From State Overreach, which ordered the U.S. attorney general to immediately identify and challenge the legality of state climate laws. “Many states have enacted, or are in the process of enacting, burdensome and ideologically motivated ‘climate change’ or energy policies that threaten American energy dominance and our economic and national security,” Trump said.

While that executive order didn’t mention Maryland, it did take issue with a carbon trad-

ing program in California that is similar to one formed by a group of states, including Maryland. In addition, the executive order could lead to a federal attack on Maryland’s Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022, which sets statewide greenhouse gas emissions goals, energy efficiency standards for new buildings and other climate-related measures. County-level actions could be challenged, too.

“Should the U.S. attorney general choose to target either the state of Maryland, Maryland’s counties, or both, the effect on Maryland’s energy landscape as well as local control could be dramatic,” Dominic J. Butchko, director of intergovernmental relations at the Maryland Association of Counties, wrote in a blog post shortly after Trump issued that executive order.

Trump signed a different executive order last January, which halted all federal approval of new wind farms, and has sought to roll back or cancel wind energy projects across the country.

While the Maryland Offshore Wind Project located off the coast of Ocean City, one of the state’s signature clean energy projects, had already been approved by the federal government, it too has

See CLIMATE, page 11

Obituaries from p.4

Department of Agriculture in Beltsville and stayed until she retired in 1987.

Marguerite is survived by her children Mary Colleen Brown, Charles Kincius and Joseph Kincius; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Kazimer, her son Kevin Kincius, her sisters Bernadette O’Connor and Sister Marie Gregory, her brothers Joseph O’Connor and Gregory O’Connor and her grandson Ryan Brown.

A viewing will be held on Wednesday, July 23 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church on Thursday, July 24 at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, gifts in Marguerite’s memory can be made to the Sisters of St. Joseph at csjoseph.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Donation-Form.pdf.

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred July 14-20, 2025. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary
Greenbelt Police reported one death, three mental health diversions and four domestic incidents, two resulting in arrest (one on a warrant). On July 15, Greenbelt Police assisted D.C. Police with a search and seizure warrant.

Strong-Arm Robbery
On July 17 at 3:29 p.m. near 6112 Breezewood Drive, two men assaulted a man and stole his property. Officers found one of the men trying to flee; he was arrested and taken to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Suspicious Person and Warrant Arrest
On July 14 at 1:42 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man entered the mall while it was closed; he was highly intoxicated, very uncooperative and had an open warrant. He was arrested and taken to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

Disorderly
On July 19 at 9:24 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man caused a disturbance in a store by approaching a female employee and making sexual advances. The man fled before officers arrived.

DUI Arrest
On July 15 at 12:46 a.m. near 5810 Greenbelt Road, a patrol officer saw a man asleep at the wheel of a running vehicle. After a brief investigation, the uncooperative driver was arrested for DUI.

Theft and Shoplifting
On July 15 at 12:14 a.m. near 6400 Ivy Lane, upon returning to his hotel room, a man noticed that the room had been cleaned, and his bag, containing clothing, shoes, and money, was missing.
On July 15 at 2:24 p.m. near 6156 Springhill Terrace, when a

man was selling a cell phone to someone he met through an on-line app, the man took the phone and left without paying.
On July 17 at 5:06 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, when a store employee left her personal property on the counter and stepped away for a moment, someone took it.
On July 19 at 2:13 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, when an employee set their phone down, a teenager stole it and fled.
On July 14 at 9:45 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man with stolen merchandise fled through the store's rear exit; at 2:31 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man stole merchandise and fled; at 2:35 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man stole merchandise and fled through the rear exit; at 4:02 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man was arrested after stealing several items.
On July 16 at 2:18 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was detained after concealing merchandise and trying to leave without paying.
On July 19 at 2:44 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, after stealing merchandise and passing all points of sale, a man was stopped and identified; charges are pending.
On July 20 at 6:26 p.m. near 7595 Greenbelt Road, patrol officers were flagged down by a store's loss prevention staff member for a theft that had just occurred. Officers arrested the man, and he was banned from the location.

Trespassing
On July 14 at 4:34 p.m. near 5506 Cherrywood Lane, a banned man returned to a restaurant;

officers sent him away without incident.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles
Five vehicles were stolen: On July 15 near 6008 Springhill Drive, a white 2021 Chevrolet Silverado; on July 16 near 6440 Cherrywood Lane, a red 2018 Mazda CX-5 (Md. 8FG3161); on July 17 near 7901 Mandan Road, a 2012 Hyundai Elantra (Md. 8GK9903); on July 18 near 9310 Edmonston Road, a 2013 Hyundai Elantra (Md. TKL6479); and on July 19 near 6440 Cherrywood Lane, a red Toyota Corolla (Va. TBK7938), stolen while making a delivery.

Stolen Vehicle Located
On July 16 near 5901 Cherrywood Lane, patrol officers found a stolen Hyundai Elantra parked with a missing door handle and damage to the steering wheel column and ignition switch.

Theft from Auto
On July 14 near 6301 Golden Triangle Drive, someone took several items from an unlocked vehicle.
On July 15 near 6204 Breezewood Drive, tags were stolen from a 2012 Toyota.
On July 17 near 6112 Greenbelt Road, someone broke into a vehicle and stole a laptop.
On July 18, the wheels were stolen from a Toyota Camry near 5993 Springhill Drive, and from a 2025 Honda Civic near Springhill Drive and Market Lane.

Vandalism to Auto
On July 17, near 3 Ridge Road, a 2024 GMC Savana had damage to the door handles and rear compartment doors; and near 7824 Hanover Parkway, a vehicle tire was punctured.

Teenager Shot in Edmonston Ct Apartment in Critical Condition

On Tuesday, July 22 at approximately 10 p.m. police were called to the scene of a shooting in the 9100 block of Edmonston Court. An 18-year-old male victim had already been taken to a nearby hospital before police arrived. The victim was shot inside a home, where several other people were also present at the time of the shooting.
The victim was in critical but stable condition at press time. Police are investigating.

Local Teen Arrested For Armed Robbery

On July 14, the Emergency Response Teams (ERT) from Greenbelt and Laurel collaborated to execute a residential search warrant in the 7400 block of Frankfort Place. Their investigation successfully led detectives and officers to locate their target, an 18-year-old male from Greenbelt.
The teenager was arrested on a warrant for an armed robbery that had occurred in the city on July 3. On that date, police were called to Edmonston Road at 11:53 p.m. for the report that two males with handguns robbed a victim, taking his phone and wallet, before fleeing in a white car.
The arrested man was taken to the Prince George's County Department of Corrections.

PGCPS Offers Free Meals for Children

Beginning in July, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will provide free meals to children 18 and younger on a first-come, first-served basis. This is separate from meals provided to children in summer programs. No registration or enrollment in the program is required. Each child must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
The closest sites to Greenbelt are in Beltsville. Calverton Elementary School, 3400 Beltsville Road, will serve hot meals until July 31 from Monday to Friday – breakfast between 9 and 9:30 a.m. and lunch between 12:30 and 1 p.m. Bagged lunches will be offered at the Beltsville Library, 4319 Sellman Road, until August 7, Monday to Thursday from 1 to 2 p.m. Find the complete list of sites and service times here: pgcps.org/offices/food-and-nutrition/summer-meals. Find an interactive map for locating children's meals at mars.msde.maryland.gov/mars_sitesearch/.



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3 BROTHERS continued from page 7

and Mario were also frequently in evidence, skillfully spinning pizzas. Together, they must have made a million of them. Three Brothers would always kick in coupons for local celebrations and fundraisers – contributing to the Labor Day Festival and many other local causes and giving discounts to local organizations planning events.

Time Flies
In recent years, Peter has run the show alone. Brothers Michael and Mario died in 2014 and 2020 respectively – and their photographs remain in a place of honor in the Greenbelt store where the boys made so many pizzas together. Murals in the Greenbelt and Laurel stores show a colorful travelogue of the family's migration and their arrival in New York from Italy.

Growth
Since their debut, more Three Brothers restaurants have been added, and there are now 10 restaurants, with seven owned and three operating under license. Greenbelt remains the flagship store. According to McGinnis, Dahl is considering expanding the chain in due course.

Going Forward
Even though we're assured that nothing will change, it's hard to imagine the store without Peter Repole popping out of the back office to cast an eagle eye over the proceedings. He has certainly earned his retirement and Greenbelters will undoubtedly wish him the leisure he so richly deserves – but only when he's got the new people sorted out.
And, Peter, thanks for all the pizza.



Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club invites all to join them online every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The club provides a fun and friendly environment for anyone interested in improving their public speaking and leadership skills. Learn more at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.

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Advertising Rate Change

Effective the issue of August 7, 2025, the News Review will change its ad rates.

Display

The base rate (Tier A) will be \$11.50 per column inch.

The nonprofit rate for those qualifying will be \$8.10 per column inch.

Discounts are available for those placing at least 45 column inches per calendar quarter.

Inserts

The price for placing inserts into the paper will change to \$35 per thousand copies for a full press run.

For further information visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/advertising.

RATES

CLASSIFIED: \$4.00 minimum for 15 words. \$1 for each 1-5 additional words. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 6 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 5 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: \$10.90/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$16.35). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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Sports

Greenbelt Swim Team Places Third in Divisional Championships

On Friday, July 18, Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team members were excitedly decorating their coach's car. On Saturday, July 19, they competed at the Divisional Championships. There the team placed third out of the six teams

in Division C. This Saturday, the swim team will celebrate their hard work and dedication this summer with an end-of-season banquet and annual splash party.



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

The Greenbelt swim team gathers on the bank at Belair Swim and Racquet Club in Bowie for a team cheer before the Divisional Championships on July 19.



PHOTO BY JASON ANDREW

The Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team decorated Coach Molly Sanborn's car early Friday morning, covering it in team spirit before some of their fastest swimmers headed to Divisionals to represent Greenbelt on Saturday.



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CLIMATE continued from page 8

been caught up in administrative hurdles. On July 7, the EPA informed Maryland regulators the state's air quality permit for the project had an error, and ordered them to revise and reissue the permit. The state does not plan to reissue the permit, Maryland Environment Secretary Serena McIlwain wrote in a July 17 letter to the agency.

Federal and state agencies haven't just lost money. They've lost people. Few states are more at risk from the federal government's sweeping layoffs than Maryland, where more than 6 percent of residents are employed by the federal government. Maryland is home to almost 230,000 federal workers, the third-largest number in the U.S. Those workers include scores of scientists, researchers and environmental experts.

NOAA and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center call Maryland home. Other agencies, including the EPA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Energy have a sizable presence in the state. These agencies play a key role in helping oversee and fund many of the state's most extensive environmental and climate projects, such as its efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay. EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin announced in May that the agency will cut staffing levels to those it had during the Ronald Reagan administration in the 1980s. On July 18, EPA announced it would shutter its research and development office and implement a large-scale "reduction in force," which, combined with previous personnel changes, would decrease the agency's workforce by about 23 percent. More than 500 Maryland residents worked

for the EPA in 2024, according to data from the federal Office of Personnel Management. Ortiz said changes in federal departments and agencies will impact Maryland's ability to carry out environmental work, as many of its authorities are delegated to the state by the federal government.

"Often we do need a thumbs up, a nod or an approval to carry out various programs," Ortiz said. "That responsiveness will be slower. Areas that we've been investing in to try to fix long-standing challenges are going to be weakened and slowed because we don't have that partnership."

Some federal cuts targeting environment-focused positions, however, have been overturned in the courts. The administration halted funding to the AmeriCorps program in April, which impacted hundreds of Maryland workers (see our story in the June 12, 2025, issue). But in June, a federal judge in Maryland ordered the Trump administration to reinstate funding for AmeriCorps positions.

Ortiz said the state is working to make "smart and strategic decisions" on how to handle federal cuts and policy changes. But, he added, as state officials make plans, new events are unfolding at "an almost hourly pace." "We want to react, but we also don't want to overreact," he said. "This is uncharted waters. So it's no easy answers, and there's certainly no playbook."

Sam Gauntt writes for the Capital News Service. This story was edited for length.



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Emerald City Pride Parade, The SPACE's Summer of Pride

by Will Hammann

The Emerald City Pride Parade was held Saturday, July 19, in Greenbelt, celebrating the spirit and contributions of the LGBTQ+ community.

Mayor Emmett Jordan, joined by Carla Gordon, wife of the late Ric Gordon who organized the first Emerald City Parade in 2022, spoke briefly before the parade about Gordon's contributions and the significance of the celebrations.

The parade began at the Gardenway playground, and marched to Roosevelt Center led by Honk! Situation, Greenbelt's New Orleans style street band. Residents were joined by several elected officials such as Jordan, Councilmembers Jenni Pompei, Danielle McKinney and Amy Knesel, Maryland Delegate Ashanti Martinez, Berwyn Heights Mayor Tiffany Papanikolas and New

Carrollton Councilmember Briana Urbina.

A festival, part of The SPACE Free Art For All's "Summer of Pride," followed the parade, where a number of organizations, including Maryland Trans Unity, FreeState Justice and The SPACE, set up stands to inform people about various resources.

Shaymar Higgs, founder and executive director of The SPACE, said that he wanted to make Pride festivities last for more than just one month. With so many events in June, "I'm sure people are tapped out, exhausted," Higgs noted.

That's why The SPACE recently has helped organize a number of events including the festival, and will continue doing so in August with Drag Bingo, an adult bonfire night and a panel on supporting neighbors in need

on the weekend of August 1, and culminating with a viewing of The Wiz on August 10, where costumes are encouraged.

The SPACE had always been involved since Ric Gordon championed Greenbelt's first parade, but after his death, Higgs was inspired to do even more, recalling that Gordon shared the goal of celebrating Pride past the month of June. "The community does not die out after Pride Day," Higgs said.

"The whole Pride thing, it's not just about the LGBT community, it's about anyone that feels marginalized. It's about creating safe spaces," Higgs said.

Will Hammann is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.

FLOODING continued from page 1

County approved erosion and sediment control plan that complies with state and county requirements. "An inspection of the site on Sunday found the required erosion and sediment control measures (i.e., sediment trap, diversion dikes and berms, and silt and super silt fence) to be functioning as designed and the site was found to be in compliance with the approved grading, erosion and sediment control plans," reported Hruby.

The Department of Public Works responded to a tree emergency at the lake where a large tree fell across the path and into the water during the storm. They were able to clear the path so that it was walkable by Sunday morning.

Other Storm Damage
Public Works also responded

to a tree emergency on Mandan Road.

However, Hruby said Public Works did not receive any calls regarding flooding following Saturday's storm. The bottom apartments at Parke Crescent, which saw dramatic flooding two years ago, continue to be unoccupied.

Some residents complained online and to neighbors of flooded basements.

In neighboring Berwyn Heights, city officials estimate 2.5 to 4 inches of rain fell in just over an hour on Saturday, which led to flooded roadways and surfaces and the need for "minor water rescues." Those rescues were carried out by the Berwyn Heights fire department, even as they dealt with flooding at their own firehouse.



The Pride parade begins at the Gardenway playground and ends at Roosevelt Center, where the festival will follow.



PHOTO BY DERMOT KELLY



Gathered on stage at the opening of the Pride Festival, are, from left (adults), City Manager Josué Salmerón, Delegate Ashanti Martinez, New Carrollton City Councilmember Briana Urbina, Councilmember Danielle McKinney, Berwyn Heights Mayor Tiffany Papanikolas, Councilmember Jenni Pompei, Mayor Emmett Jordan, Carla Gordon, Shaymar Higgs, Michael Hartman and Councilmember Amy Knesel.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

The Greenbelt Witches group cast their love spell on the crowd.



Paraders leave the Gardenway playground.

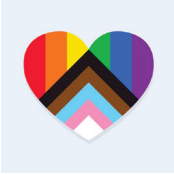


PHOTO BY BARBARA BIANES

Xander



PHOTO BY NATHAN GERDES

Water surges over the path and culverts behind Charlestowne North and continues directly into Greenbelt Lake.



PHOTO BY RICHARD CANTWELL

Water flows from the flooded Braden Field area to the Lake at the East Entrance.

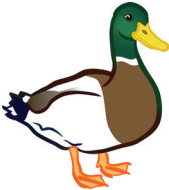


PHOTO BY GREG FISANICH

The view from a vehicle shows the flooded Braden Field area on Saturday night.

